

**First Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 19-0221.01 Conrad Imel x2313

SENATE BILL 19-020

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Coram and Fields, Cooke, Marble

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McLachlan, Hooton

Senate Committees

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING DEVELOPMENT OF A SYSTEM TO PATROL THE AIRSPACE**

102 **ABOVE WILDLAND FIRES.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)

Wildfire Matters Review Committee. The bill requires the center of excellence for advanced technology aerial firefighting, subject to available appropriations, to study and, if feasible, implement a system to patrol the airspace above a wildland fire.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-1228, **add**
3 (2.5)(e) as follows:

4 **24-33.5-1228. Colorado firefighting air corps - creation -**
5 **powers - aircraft acquisitions required - center of excellence -**
6 **unmanned aircraft systems study and pilot program - Colorado**
7 **firefighting air corps fund - creation - report - rules.**

8 (2.5) (e) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE CENTER OF
9 EXCELLENCE SHALL STUDY AND, IF FEASIBLE, IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO
10 PATROL THE AIRSPACE ABOVE A WILDLAND FIRE. THE PATROL SYSTEM
11 MUST BE CAPABLE OF DETERMINING WHETHER THE AIRSPACE ABOVE
12 WILDLAND FIRES IS CLEAR OF OBSTACLES, INCLUDING PRIVATE UNMANNED
13 AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS, THAT MAY INTERFERE WITH AERIAL FIREFIGHTING.

14 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
15 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
16 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
17 2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); except that, if a
18 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
19 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
20 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
21 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
22 November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
23 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.